

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An inmate visitation system, comprising:

means for receiving a visitation request from an inmate for a plurality of potential visitors to attend the same visitation,

means for sending from one of the plurality of potential visitors a registration request for each of the plurality of potential visitors based upon the received visitation request;

means for receiving registration information based upon the sent registration request;

means for determining whether the visitation request from the inmate is approved or disapproved; and

means for communicating the approval or disapproval of the visitation request.
2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising:

means for recording information associated with one or more of ~~[[a]]~~the visitation request, ~~[[a]]~~the registration request and the visitation approval or disapproval.
3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the means for determining is at least one of a prison official and ~~[[a]]~~an analytical process that reviews at least one of historical visitation requests and visitation data.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 2, wherein the means for recording further maintains a history of potential visitors including the plurality of potential visitors requested by ~~[[an]]~~the inmate.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein ~~[[a]]~~the visitation request includes at least one of a name, address, telephone number and relationship to the inmate of at least one of the plurality of potential visitors ~~potential visitor's phone number, relationship of the potential visitor and the inmate, the potential visitors name and the potential visitors address.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
means for scheduling, for approved ones of the potential visitors, an available time to visit ~~[[an]]~~the inmate.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for registering potential visitors of incarcerated inmates, comprising:
receiving a visitation request from an inmate for a plurality of potential visitors to attend the same visitation,
sending from one of the plurality of potential visitors a registration request for each of the plurality of potential visitors based upon the received visitation request;
receiving registration information based upon the sent registration request;

determining whether the visitation request from the inmate is approved or disapproved; and

communicating the approval or disapproval of the visitation request.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
recording information associated with one or more of ~~[[a]]~~the visitation request,
~~[[a]]~~the registration request and the visitation approval or disapproval.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the determining is at least one of a manual and an automated process that reviews at least one of historical visitation requests and visitation data.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein recording further comprises maintaining a history of potential visitors including the plurality of potential visitors requested by ~~[[an]]~~the inmate.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~[[a]]~~the visitation request includes at least one of a name, address, telephone number and relationship to the inmate of at least one of the plurality of potential visitors ~~potential visitor's phone number, relationship of the potential visitor and the inmate, the potential visitors name and the potential visitors address.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

scheduling, for approved ones of the potential visitors, an available time to visit
[[an]]the inmate.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product including computer-readable program code for use in a computer, said computer readable program code ~~An inmate visitation system,~~ comprising:

[[a]] visitation registration ~~module~~ program code for

receiving a visitation request from an inmate for a plurality of potential visitors to attend the same visitation,

automatically approving or disapproving a registration request for each of the plurality of potential visitors, the registration request sent from one of the plurality of potential visitors for each of the plurality of potential visitors based upon the visitation request and

recording information associated with at least one of the visitation request and the registration request; and

[[a]] visitation scheduling ~~module~~ program code for scheduling, for approved ones of the plurality of potential visitors, an available time to visit [[an]]the inmate.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The inmate visitation system~~ computer program product of claim 13, wherein the visitation scheduling ~~module~~ program code is accessed by an approved potential visitor

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~inmate visitation system~~ computer program product of claim 13, wherein the visitation registration ~~module~~ program code further comprises communicating ~~denial requests~~ disapproval of the registration request in response to the registration request.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~inmate visitation system~~ computer program product of claim 13, wherein the visitation registration ~~module~~ program code further ~~allowing the one or more~~ allows the plurality of potential visitors to access a status of ~~a response to~~ the registration request.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~inmate visitation system~~ computer program product of claim 13, wherein if additional information is needed the visitation registration ~~module~~ program code further ~~places~~ placing a response to a register the registration request on hold pending the additional information.

18. (Currently Amended) An automated method to register and schedule a plurality of potential visitors in a given timeslot for a visit with an inmate, the method comprising:
receiving a request to provide registration information in order to schedule visitation ~~[[of]]~~ with the inmate, the request being received by one of the plurality of potential visitors;

supplying the requested registration information to ~~[[the]]~~a sender of the request,
the requested registration information being supplied by the one potential visitor about each one
of the plurality of potential visitors;

receiving an approval notification for at least one of the plurality of potential
visitors; and

accessing a visitation ~~scheduling module~~ schedule to enter a proposed visiting
time corresponding to the given timeslot to schedule ~~[[a]]~~the visit with the inmate;

~~entering a proposed visiting time;~~

determining whether the inmate is available at the proposed visiting time; and

if the inmate is available during the proposed visiting time, receiving a schedule
and confirmation number.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the ~~receipt of the~~
~~registration~~ request is based upon a visitation request supplied by ~~[[an]]~~the inmate.

20. (New) In a network having at least one visitor network interface linked to at least
one prison network interface by way of a computer system running a visitation scheduling
software module, an automated method to register and schedule a plurality of potential visitors in
a same timeslot for a visit with an inmate, the method comprising:

one of the plurality of potential visitors using the at least one visitor network interface to receive a request over the network from the at least one prison network interface, the request being for registration information to schedule a visitation with the inmate;

the one potential visitor supplying the requested registration information to the least one prison network interface about each one of the plurality of potential visitors;

receiving an approval notification for at least one of the plurality of potential visitors;

accessing the visitation scheduling software module to schedule a visit with the inmate by entering a proposed visiting time corresponding to the given timeslot;

determining whether the inmate is available at the proposed visiting time; and

receiving a schedule and confirmation number if the inmate is available during the proposed visiting time.